



## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Traffic Study Files

**From:** Dipti Borkar-Desai, P.E.  
North Area Supervisor  
Traffic Engineering Division  
Austin Transportation Department

**Date:** August 7, 2012

**Subject:** Reduced Speed School Zone Investigation

**Location:** Aberdeen Way

**Date(s) of Previous Investigation:** None



A traffic engineering investigation has been conducted to determine if a reduced speed school zone should be installed on Aberdeen Way at the intersection of Aberdeen Way and Tartan Lane (the study intersection) for students attending Dobie Middle School.

Austin Independent School District School (AISD) is adding a kindergarten center serving kindergarten and pre-kindergarten to the campus at Dobie Middle School beginning with the 2012-2013 school year. This will increase pedestrian activity in the vicinity of the study intersection. Pedestrians including pre-kindergarten and kindergarten students living in the Heritage Hills and Windsor Hills Neighborhoods are anticipated to cross this street if they choose to walk or bicycle between home and school. Figure 1 presents a map of the study area.

The following information was collected and analyzed for this determination.

### Proximity of the School Crossing to the School

The proposed school crossing at the study intersection is located near the north property line of the school. The adjacent land uses are primarily residential as the Heritage Hills and Windsor Hills neighborhoods surround the intersection of Teasdale Terrace and Tartan Lane. There are no commercial properties in the vicinity of the intersection and a City of Austin park is located south of the school property across Rundberg Lane.

### **Pedestrian Count**

Because the 2012-2013 school year has not begun, no students have been counted crossing Aberdeen Way. Pedestrians from throughout the Heritage Hills and Windsor Hills neighborhoods are expected to cross as a part of their route to and from Dobie Middle School.

### **Existing Roadway Conditions**

Location	Type of Controls	ADT Two Way	Posted Speed Limit	Street Width
Aberdeen Way	Uncontrolled	1723	30 MPH	44 feet
Tartan Lane	Stop	< 1,000	30 MPH	44 feet

### **Presence of Adult Crossing Guard or Student Safety Patrol**

The City's Child Safety Program has committed an adult crossing guard at this intersection if a school zone is established.

### **Crash History**

Austin Police Department's crash database was queried for crashes near the study intersection between July 2011 and July 2012. None were reported during this time period.

### **Sight Distance**

Unobstructed sight distance is approximately 265 feet north of Tartan Lane. Unobstructed sight distance is virtually unlimited south of Tartan Lane.

### **Sidewalks and Ramps**

A sidewalk is installed along the entire length of the east side of Aberdeen Way between Rundberg Lane and Childress Drive. Along the west side of Aberdeen Way, a sidewalk extends from Rundberg Lane along the west side of the AISD property for approximately 115 feet to a Capital Metro bus stop. The eastern side of the AISD property is fenced with limited access at an opening at the intersection of Aberdeen Way and Tartan Lane. At the intersection with Tartan Lane, a sidewalk extends approximately 38 feet south of the intersection and approximately 35 feet north of the intersection. Tartan Lane forms a "T" intersection with Aberdeen Way and there are ADA compliant ramps with marked crosswalks located on the south and north sides of the intersection.

### **Recommendation**

Based on the analysis of this information, it is my engineering judgment that a reduced speed school zone of 20 miles per hour be installed on Aberdeen Way from 250 feet south of Tartan Lane to 275 feet north of Tartan Lane and operates between 7:00 AM and 8:30 AM and 2:00 PM and 4:00 PM.